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The Columbian Balance, and Repository.

"HAIL SACRED POLITY, BY FREEDOM REAR'D !
"HAIL SACRED FREEDOM, WHEN BY LAW RESTRAIN'D !"
BEATTIE.

HUDSON, (New-York) TUESDAY, May 17, 1803.

Original Essays.

Hither the products of your closet-labors bring,
Enrich our columns, and instruct mankind.

FOR THE BALANCE.

ON THE USE OF FIRE.

MAN, weak by nature, is able to increase and multiply his force a thousand fold, by the mechanical use he learns to make of the elements; particularly fire, air and water. He is the only animal upon earth, that has any power over fire, or that knows how to kindle it. Lions, tigers, and other ferocious beasts, are afraid of fire, and will relinquish their prey, rather than venture near it: and tho' dogs, having been accustomed to fire, are fond of lying aside of it, they never learn any thing concerning its use. They see fire daily kindled, but they never attempt to kindle it themselves. They never offer to roast their meat over the coals, tho' they often see their masters or their mistresses do it.—Why not?—The dog is both sagacious and imitative, and is capable of doing many things seemingly more difficult than this.—When he lies upon the hearth, during a long winter night, what hinders him from laying the adjacent fuel upon the embers, and kindling a fire for his own comfort?—Heaven, in wisdom and benevolence, has chained his nature. If brute creatures had the faculty of enkindling fire, the habitations of men could never be safe: therefore this faculty is denied them. The knowledge of the uses of fire is one impassible barrier, that seperates the human from the brutal nature. There is probably no animal upon earth, except man, that can subsist, & propagate and perpetuate its species, in *both* the opposite extremes of heat and cold. Some of the inferior animals are peculiar to the *torrid*, and some to the *frigid* zone: while others delight in a temperate climate: and when they are removed to distant regions, where they are made to breathe an atmosphere of an opposite temperature to their native air, they are found to languish; and quickly become extinct. But man is an inhabitant of all climes. He lives under the blaze of a vertical sun; and, *by the help of fire*, he lives amidst the tremendous frosts of Iceland and Siberia. While the earth is locked up and the rivers are chained with frost, he sits comfortably by his fire side, and defies the tempest that howls around him. By means of fire, he refines the precious metals, and extracts, from the ore, *iron*, which is infinitely more precious than gold: he beats it into plough-shares and other instruments of husbandry: he forms it into weapons of defence and annoyance; he fashions it into tools and instruments for the construction of habitations and ships, which traverse the oceans and bear his commodities to distant countries. By means of fire, he clears the forests and turns a wilderness into fruitful fields. Furnished with instruments, or aided in his exertions, by the agency of fire, he subdues, as well the leviathan of the sea, as the beasts of the forest: he breaks up quarries; rives the hardest rocks; turns the courses of waters; and dykes up the ocean itself, and robs it of a part of its domain.

But for the use of fire, only a small part of the globe would be habitable to man; nor could he ever rise above the savage state. The single article of iron, which receives its consistence, its temper, and its various forms, from the agency of fire, were it entirely lost to the world, the whole race of mankind must inevitably, in a short time, sink into the savage condition: because on this article there depend architecture, navigation, typography, all agricultural and mechanical operations; and indeed almost every thing that raises civilized man above the forlorn savage of the wilderness.

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

FOR THE BALANCE.

Messrs. Editors,

THE influence of family government in forming the manners, and if I may so say, the minds also of the governed being so great, has led me to reflect that parents, and guardians, who have so important parts to act, should endeavour to consider whose mode of governing is best calculated to promote happiness, and strive to adopt the best.

People in all situations of life, manifest a strong propensity to believe their own systems are best in every case. He who governs with a rod of *Iron*, is apt to despise the mild, and easy way of his neighbour.

Perhaps a better opportunity to observe the effects of those different systems never presented itself, than I lately had.

Mr. ——— is frequently out of humour with his family, and strange as it may seem, he appears to pride himself in

having all about him ſo ſubject to his law and rule, that they will "fly" at his word. It is a maxim with him never to "loſe a command," and he even perſeveres in a *determination*, when convinced of its inutility: becauſe he "will not loſe a command." His children are generally obedient when he is preſent, and are prompt in their attention to his orders; but if he chance to leave them to execute his commands in his ablence, the impulſe of fear is weakened by diſtance, and they are apt to be unfaithful. The elder brother has diſcovered the convenience of ſetting a younger to perform his taſk, and he domineeringly acts over the ſcenes which he takes from high authority. Thus each, as opportunity offers, acts the tyrant. This is a true picture, and is it pleaſant? Can it be profitable? Let any one live in *thoſe* ſcenes, and then go with me to Neighbour ———'s. He puts up with the follies of youth, and does not ſcold at every little accident; and if his children do not "fly" like thoſe of his neighbour, ſtill he ſeems to convince them of the reaſonableneſs of his commands, and they obey without reluctance. I have never heard of his SWEARING *at his wife*, or any of his family, or even of an expreſſion in anger at any time. His boys are remarked for their induſtry, and are certainly more ſprightly than his neighbour's boys. They labour together in the field without wrangling; and it is no bar to their pleaſure in their recreation, that their parents are ſpectators; while thoſe of the other family will always ſteal out of their parents' ſight, or they cannot enjoy themſelves.

Thus I have partly delineated a contraſt actually exiſting in two of my neighbours, and which preſents a picture to my mind of the moſt melancholy kind. If this could be inſtrumental to a reformation, I ſhould conſider it the happieſt act of my life. If I could preſent the contraſt to the public as ſtrikingly as it exiſts, all would yield to the neceſſity of mild government. Yet government may be too mild, or rather too lax; and as there is a mean in all things, ſo he who can hold the reins ſo as to be felt, and ſpare ſeverity, deſerves to be remembered as a model.

OBSERVER.

Political.

FROM THE CHARLESTON COURIER.

TO be continually in a ſtate of active hoſtility againſt public impoſition and falſhood, however laudable it may be in itſelf, to an ingenuous mind muſt be painful. To be condemned to the drudgery of perpetually watching the ſame mill-horſe round of public deception, of repeatedly detecting the ſame impoſture, and of meeting at every return the pertinacious repetition of the ſame dull, bungling cheat upon the people, is certainly vexatious—Yet it is a taſk to which every honeſt man is bound by his civil duties, and from which the managers of public Journals above all others cannot ſhrink without guilt. Some time ago, when falſhood, if once detected, dare not ſhew its front again in the ſame ſhape, this kind of care would have been ſuperfluous; but now, when it returns to the charge, unabaſhed by ſhame, unchecked by remorſe, when it attempts to weary one part of the people into acquieſcence, and cajoles another into belief, ſociety and every thing valuable in it muſt crumble to ruins, if ſuch things, though they return a thouſand times to the charge, are not as often encountered, and driven back. Weariſome and odious to ourſelves as the taſk of repetition muſt be, we will perform this duty ſtrictly and conſcientiouſly. Our readers cannot be ſurprized, if in anſwering ſuch tautologous nonſenſe, tautology ſhould appear; for invention muſt be exhauſted where its labour is great, and its food but little. The purveyors of falſhood ſo far from being aſhamed of dulneſs, cannot be aſhamed of any thing! and impudence confers upon their aſſertions a ſpurious air of authority, and impoſes attention where modeſt virtue can ſcarcely obtain a hearing. So that though they are far from being worthy of a reply, they muſt be anſwered, that they may not be dangerous. At the ſame time we declare, that if it were not that the ingenious, who are always unwary, too often unthinking, might become the dupes of thoſe tricks, clumſy and bungling as they are, we ſhould be rather diſpoſed to laugh at the grave confidence, or to turn with diſguſt and contempt from the cold, torpid, phlegmatic diſregard of ſhame, diſplayed by thoſe who advance ſuch things, and repeat them again after they have been refuted, than to conſider them as worthy of ſerious refutation. Thoſe worthy democrats ſeem as if condemned for their ſins, like Siſyphus of old, eternally to labour in rolling up a hill the huge ſtone of falſhood, which rolls down again upon their heads, and keeps them in the endleſs, fruitleſs labour of the damned.

"Then Sisyphus, the nearest mate in woe
Drew my regard; he with distended nerves
Aye rolls a ponderous stone up a rugged rock:
Urg'd up the steep cliff slow, with hand and foot,
It mounts; but bordering on the cloudy peak
Precipitous adown the slopy side;
The rapid orb devolving back renews
Eternal toil, which he, with *dirt besmear'd*,
And dew'd with smoking sweat, incessant plies."

Theſe, or ſuch as theſe, are the Tartarean labours which employ the *bleſſed* inhabitants of the Pandemonium erected in America by the diſciples of France, Robeſpierre, and the *Rights of Man*.

What mind, not tainted or preverted by the arts of the ruling party, can fail to turn with abhorrence from the weekly reiteration as ſtupid as it is falſe, and as ſhameleſs as either, of the applauſe laviſhed upon our preſent, and the cenſure caſt upon our former, financiers. Already it has been proved that thoſe who now keep the key of the treaſury, not only have not the merit of bringing into it a ſingle cent, but have to anſwer for having oppoſed almoſt every meaſure, and of having avowed open hoſtility to the whole of the ſyſtem of finance of their predeceſſors, the productiveneſs of which ſyſtem, nevertheleſs, they and their agents have now the impudence to boaſt of as if it were their own—Already it has been proved to their teeth that the cauſes of the expenditure of the public money during the former adminiſtrations not only went hand in hand with the public will, but were called for by the public voice, as a defence againſt foreign inſult and wrong; proved too that a part of it was incurred by the ſuppreſſion of two inſurrections, abetted by ſome of thoſe very men who blame that expenſe. If every ſegar, and every glaſs of grog or wine drank in the Union, were known to be taken from the banks and the waters of Lethe, thoſe democratic agents could not think the people of America more ſtupid, more loſt to all recollection of the paſt, more obliviouſly drunk and inſenſible than they muſt think them when they imagine them to be capable of ſwallowing ſuch downright, direct contradictions of truth and matter of fact as they offer them, not once, but decies repetita. Thus though over and over again anſwered, though rolled like Siſyphus down the hill with their falſhoods on their heads, they come forward with the ſtale, democratic ſlang flory, that the former adminiſtration was extravagant, compared with the preſent, when any man who has brains enough in his pate to fill the cranium of a gander, knows that the cauſes for that expenditure ceaſed before the preſent adminiſtration came into office, and that therefore to have done otherwiſe than retrenched it, would have been committing a fraud upon the public—For not committing a fraud in this inſtance, they are welcome to the merit claimed for them. Honeſty, or at leaſt the ſemblance of it, is the beſt policy. And here, for once, the policy of the party is of uſe to the public.

As they act upon the ſuppoſition that the American people have no intellect or memory, ſo they ſeem to imagine that the American Almanacs have no dates by which the periods of particular events can

be aſcertained, elſe ſurely they would not propound ſuch an extravagant propoſition as that Mr. Gallatin's abilities had eſſentially ſerved and filled the treaſury. In April he came into office; in the December following his puffers ſtate the treaſury to have had an increaſe, by his financial exertions, of *one million one hundred and fifty four thouſand ſix hundred and ſeventy three dollars*. Probably they mean the public ſhould beleive by this that he had procured to be adopted, carried into execution, and reaped the fruits of a new plan of finance, benefiting the nation to that amount.

Readers! have you ever read the Arabian Knights Entertainments—a book of profeſſed miracles and falſhoods? If you have not, pray do read it that you may have the ſatisfaction of knowing how much that far famed work of the *eaſt* is ſurpaſſed in one ſort of invention by our democratic agents of the weſt. Turn to the wonderful ſtory of *Aladdin!* read that! and then lay your hands upon your boſoms and ſay, can the wonderful lamp of Aladdin be thought very much to ſurpaſs the wonder-working heads of our financiers, if this aſſertion of theirs were true. In our minds the impoſtor Mahomet's ſtory that he went from Mecca to Jeruſalem, from Jeruſalem up to the ſeventh Heaven, where he held an interview of *ſeveral years* with God, and then returned again to Mecca, all *in the ſpace of one night*, is little leſs worthy of credit.

But let us aſk thoſe grave tale writers of the weſt, what theſe miraculous means were, by which they pretend their treaſury friend performed this extraordinary ſervice? Have he and his weſtern aſſociates been ſeized with a fit of contrition for their whiſkey freaks, and in penance paid the ſum ſtated, or even a large part of it into the treaſury, as an expiation of their ſins againſt the ſtate, and as a reimburſement, ſo far, of the expences of ſuppreſſing their inſurrection? Or has it, upon the ſame principle of guilt awed by conſcience into remorſe, been refunded to the treaſury by thoſe *democratic defalcators who were expected from the office upon a proof of delinquent peculation*—not falſely accuſed nor heaped with calumnies, which were afterwards controverted, as has been the caſe of federal officers, but *actually expelled* upon incontrovertible, damning proofs of delinquency, peculation, and official guilt and default, proofs from which even the hardened heart and brazened front of Gallic democracy ſhrunk appalled, ſkulking from the light, and like a ſacred fiſh hiding its head not abaſhed with ſhame, but aſtoniſhed with fear. We rather think they will not ſay that the treaſury drew this mighty ſum or any part of it from theſe reſources. Then from what did it come, but from the reſources created by the wiſdom and financial ſkill of the federal governments, which were of courſe more productive in ſeven months of 1801, than they could have been in ſeven months of 1800. Oh wonderful! wonderful! As Shakeſpeare ſays, "ſuch a deal of wonder is broken out that ballad makers cannot be able to expreſs it."

Extract of a letter from a gentleman in London to his friend in Philadelphia dated March 17, 1803.

"I reached London on the evening of the 8th inſt. from France. At the very moment of ſitting down at my friends houſe, a manuſcript copy of the King's war meſſage was received at his office. Never was my aſtoniſhment greater. It was but three days ſince I had left France in a perfect ſtate of peace and tranquility, and as far as I could diſcern, without any idea exiſting in the minds of the French people, as to a proſpect of a rupture with this country. Sure I am that they do not wiſh for ſuch an event. Next morning I was at all the coffee-houſes in the neighbourhood of 'Change. The King's meſſage engroſſed all the converſation, and deep conſternation was pictured on the faces of moſt of the ſtock-jobbers It is impoſſible to ſtate what is the public opinion relative to the preſent proſpect of war. One portion of the people are guided in their judgments merely by intereſted motives: others are open mouthed for war at all hazards; while others again are ſtrongly oppoſed to it, under any circumſtances, and inſiſt that a renewal of hoſtilities will totally ruin the country. For my own part, I cannot think that the government of this country is earneſtly intent to war. In her preſent ſituation, the idea appears to me too prepoſterous for a moment's reflection. The army agents have commenced purchaſes of many articles—a warm preſs has exiſted ever ſince the meſſage, and new warrants are iſſuing every day, and yet, as I obſerved before, I cannot bring my mind to the belief that Great Britain is in *earneſt for war*. It is true, the exports have diminiſhed ſince the peace, and a great diſſatisfaction preyails becauſe the French refuſe to enter into a commercial treaty; but can this be a ſufficient motive for war?

"A ſimilar diſtemper to that which rages in Paris, prevails in London; but it is not ſo mortal."

APHORISM.—The preſence of him is oppreſſive whoſe going away makes thoſe he leaves eaſy; and he, whoſe preſence was oppreſſive, was either *good* in *bad* or *bad* in *good* company.—*Lavater.*

Balance Closet.

It will be recollected that we accused the democrats of using dishonorable means for the purpose of furthering their election. This has given rise to the following paragraph in the Bee:—

"The editors ſay ſomething about "*means uſed*, &c. The federaliſts will "not thank them for touching on ſo deli- "icate a ſubject. There is a *double en- "tendre* in the *ſpirit* with which they are "ſaid to have come forward, that would "make their leaders rue the day in which "the hint was ſuggeſted, were we to ex- "plain and expoſe the alluſion. People "who live in houſes of glaſs ſhould nev- "er begin to throw ſtones at thoſe whoſe "dwellings are made of iron."

A man must certainly have a head of "iron," and a face of brass, to pen such a paragraph without blushing. We now repeat, what we have often declared, that the federalists never desire to shrink from investigation. Instead of *double entendres* and inuendoes, we invite the Bee to state its accusations in direct terms; and, with a hope of inspiring it with a little *spirit*, we now declare that the despicable trick which the democrats attempted to play off upon a respectable class of citizens (we mean the society of *Friends*) at the time of the election, ought to cover them, and their "iron house" with infamy.

The Bee says that we gave an incorrect statement of the number of votes which Mr. Van Ness lost by mis-spelling, &c. We founded our statement on the best information at that time in our possession; and we have not since had access to the clerk's office. Believing, however, that the Bee, for *once*, has told the truth, we return it our sincere thanks for "performing the *friendly* office of correcting an error," which we inadvertantly made.

And we now beg leave to ask the Bee whether it is not more honorable and honest to acknowledge an error candidly, than it is to persist in it, and even go through the ridiculous formality of procuring *extracts of letters without signatures* to prove it? Has the Bee forgotten the Litchfield election? Has it already lost the recollection of its baseness and injustice towards Major Ten Broeck?

A respectable correspondent has communicated to us a bill of mortality, for Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, for the year 1802.

Portsmouth is situated 43 d. 5 m. North latitude, and contains about 5,600 inhabitants. It was visited with a constant succession of different epidemics throughout the whole of last year; and the whole number of deaths, during the year, was one hundred and fifty two; eleven whereof died of the measles, and twenty eight of the consumption.

Our correspondent observes, that in the year 1801, there were a hundred deaths only in that town; and what is very remarkable, just one fifth of them was by consumption.

Agricultural.

From the ENCYCLOPEDIA.

HOW TO PRESERVE FRUIT TREES IN BLOSSOM FROM THE EFFECTS OF FROST.

THE chevalier de Bienenberg of Prague, we are told, has discovered a method of effectually preserving trees in blossom from the fatal effects of those frosts which sometimes in the spring destroy the most promising hopes of a plentiful crop of fruit. His method is extremely simple. He surrounds the trunk of the tree in blossom with a wisp of straw or hemp. The end of this he sinks, by means of a stone tied to it, in a vessel of spring water, at a little distance from the tree. One vessel will conveniently serve two trees; or the cord may be lengthened so as to surround several, before its end is plunged into the water. It is necessary that the vessel be placed in an open situation, and by no means shaded by the branches of the neighbouring trees, that the frost may produce all its effects on the water, by means of the cord communicating with it.—This precaution is particularly necessary for those trees the flowers of which appear nearly at the same time as the leaves; which trees are peculiarly exposed to the ravages of the frost. The proofs of its efficacy, which he had an opportunity of observing in the spring of 1787, were remarkably striking. Seven apricot espaliers in his garden began to blossom in the month of March. Fearing that they would suffer from the late frosts, he surrounded them with cords as above directed. In effect, pretty sharp frosts took place six or eight nights: the apricot trees in the neighbouring gardens were all frozen, and none of them produced any fruit, whilst each of the chevalier's produced fruit in abundance, which came to the greatest perfection.

Mrs. EXTON and family, of New-Jersey, last year made 800 Cheeses, which sell in Philadelphia at the same price as cheese imported from England. They milk 40 cows. Their farm is 600 acres, of which the one half is wood land. An example of such well directed industry & good management may be imitated by others with great advantage; and shews that farming in the United States, when well conducted, is one of the most profitable objects to which a man can direct his attention. [*Mer. Advertiser.*]

Monitorial Department.

To aid the cause of virtue and religion.

FOR THE BALANCE.

BERTHA, QUEEN OF ENGLAND.

CHRISTIANITY is supposed to have been introduced into Britain, either by St. Paul or by some of his companions and disciples, a few years after the middle of the first century. In the 5th century, the Britons, invaded by the Picts and Scots, called in the assistance of the Saxons, who were led by two brothers, Hengist and Horsa. Those foreign auxiliaries, as might have been expected, after vanquishing and expelling the Picts and Scots, turned their arrows and spears against the natives;—dispossessed them of their lands, destroyed the lives of multitudes, and reduced the rest, except those who fled into Comwall and Wales, to the most abject slavery. The Saxon conquerors, who began in that island a new line of kings, were pagans: and they established paganism; which continued predominant, almost four centuries. It was by the influence of a *Woman*, in the first instance, that those idolatrous princes, together with their nobility and the nation in general, were converted to the christian faith.

Clovis, King of France, in the year 496, embraced christianity, which then begun in that kingdom. In the 9th century, Ethelbert, King of England, of the Saxon line, married Bertha, the only daughter of Caribert, King of France, who was a descendant of Clovis. Before Ethelbert was admitted to this alliance, he was obliged to stipulate, that the princess should enjoy the free exercise of her religion. While Bertha was zealous for the propagation of christianity, she supported the credit of her faith by an irreproachable and amiable conduct; and employed every art of insinuation and address to reconcile her husband to her religious principles. The superiority of her education, the purity of her morals, and the engaging suavity of her manners, gave her an ascendency over Ethelbert; and, at the same time, rendered her extremely popular with the courtiers: and thus paved the way for their reception of the christian doctrines.

Ethelbert, not suddenly, but after taking a considerable time for examination, renounced paganism and embraced the christian system; and his courtiers and nobility followed his example.—A most noble conquest!—a conquest of *hearts*, for the purpose of forming in them the principles of virtue and piety.

A Semiramis, a Zenobia, the Elizabeth of England, and the last Catharine of Russia, excite astonishment, more than love. Their vast capacities, their splendid talents, equalled by a very few among monarchs of the male sex, are evincive of the powers of the female mind.—But, in the display of strong masculine features,

> —"They roughen to the sense, and all
> The winning softness of their sex is lost."

Bertha, on the other hand, standing aloof from bloody feats of war and from the mazy walks of politics, displayed, in her exalted station, the genuine charms and evinced the irresistable power of female virtue. On her character, which was purely feminine, the graces shed their mildest lustre.

Possessing the kindest of hearts;—blest with a peculiar sweetness of disposition; she won over, by her amiable manners and engaging address, an idolatrous King and Court, the besotted worshippers of the idol Woden; and allured them to embrace the system of divine truth. In that exalted woman, the sex beholds equally an object to admire and a pattern to imitate.

Miscellany.

From the N. Y. DAILY ADVERTISER.

GENERIC NAMES

FOR THE COUNTRY AND PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THE portion of terraqueous globe comprehended by the great Lakes, the Saint Lawrence, the Ocean and the Mississippi, has no general denomination by which it can be conveniently distinguished in geography. Its subdivisions and local names are appropriate enough and sufficiently well understood. But there is still wanting one broad and universal appellation, to designate and characterize the whole appropriated and unappropriated territory of the United States.

It was a great oversight in the Convention of 1787, that they did not give a name to the country for which they devised a frame of government. Its citizens are suffering every day for lack of such a generic term. Destitute of a proper name for their own soil and region, they express themselves vaguely and awkwardly on the subject. By some it is termed "United States;" this however is a *political*, and not a *geographical* title. By others it is called "America," and the inhabitants "Americans." But these ep-

ithets equally belong to Labrador and Paraguay and their natives. "New-England" and "New-Englanders" are two uncouth terms applied by certain other writers and ſpeakers. In ſome parts of Europe, we have been diſtinguiſhed as "Anglo-Americans;" and this appellation is in ſome reſpects worſe, and in no reſpect better than either of the others.

What are we to do? Are we never to have a geographical diſtinction? Is the land to be forever called "United States," and its people "United-States-men?" And even then, on a ſuppoſition that the union ſhould ceaſe, muſt the region it occupies be nameleſs?

It is in the power of the people to find and adopt fitting names for their country and themſelves, by common conſent.—Theſe ought to be expreſſive, conciſe, nervous and poetical. And any new word poſſeſſing theſe qualities, may ſerve to deſignate *this part of the planet we inhabit*—From ſuch a word as a radical term, all others proper for diſtinguiſhing the people, &c. may be derived.

To ſupply this ſad deficiency in our geographical and national nomenclature, the following project is reſpectfully ſubmitted to the conſideration of our map-makers, engravers, printers, legiſlators, and men of letters. The authors of it are citizens of the United States, and are zealous for their proſperity, honour, and reputation. They wiſh them to poſſeſs a name among the nations of the earth. They lament that hitherto and at preſent the country is deſtitute of one.

Let the extent of land ceded to our nation by the treaty of 1783, be diſtinguiſhed henceforward on charts, globes, and in elementary books by the name of

FREDON:

the etymology of this is obvious and agreeable: it may mean a *free-gift;* or any *thing done freely;* or *the land of free privileges and doings.* This is the proper term to be employed in all grave, ſolemn, and proſe compoſitions, and in ordinary converſation. It is better adapted than "Albion" is to England.

If, however, any of the favorites of the Muſes deſire a poetical name for this tract of earth, it is eaſy to ſupply them with one which ſounds and pronounces to great advantage. Such an one is

FREDONIA:

which will meet the ear more excellently than Italia, Gallia, Parthia, Hiſpania, Germania, or even Britania itſelf.—America and Columbia will retain their preſent ſignification, of extending to the whole Weſtern hemiſphere.

The citizens and inhabitants of the United States when ſpoken of generally, without reference to any particular ſtate, may be known and diſtinguiſhed as

FREDONIANS.

And that ſuch a perſon being aſked in Europe or any other part of the world, from what country he comes or to what nation he belongs, may correctly and preciſely anſwer that he is a FREDONIAN. And this will meet the ear much more nobly than "a Frenchman, a Spaniard, a Portugueſe," "a Turk" and the like.

Again, a monyſyllable name is perfectly eaſy to be obtained from the ſame root; and to him who thinks the laſt word too long or lofty, it will be wholly at his option to call himſelf

FREDE;

and in this reſpect he will put himſelf on a par with a "Mede" and a "Swede."

Moreover, ſhould an adjective be deſired to qualify expreſſions and facilitate diſcourſe, there is ſuch a thing immediately ready for uſe in

FREDISH;

and thereby, we can ſpeak of "a Frediſhſhip," or a "Frediſh-man," or a "Frediſh manufacture or production," after the ſame manner and according to the ſame rule, by which we employ the adjectives, *Britiſh, Spaniſh, Daniſh, Turkiſh*, and the like.

Thus, our nation is in poſſeſſion of a *proſaic* word for its whole territory, FREDON; a *poetical* word for the ſame, FREDONIA; a *grave and ſonorous* generic title for its people, property, and relations, FREDONIAN; a *ſhort and colloquial appellation* FREDE; and a convenient univerſal epithet, FREDISH. A language ſo rich and copious is ſcarcely to be found; and it is hoped our citizens will make the moſt of it.

In caſe any of our countrymen ſhould wiſh to expreſs himſelf according to this novel dialect, the following is offered as an example, alluding to a recent ſubject of public diſcuſſion.

"It has been a favourite object with a certain claſs of men to involve FREDON in a war with Spain, France or both of them, about the right of depoſit on the Miſſiſſippi. The outrageous conduct of the Intendant at New-Orleans was indeed very provoking, but the FREDONAN SPIRIT, tho' rouſed by juſt indignation, was too temperate and magnanimous to ruſh immediately to arms. It was thought moſt wiſe and politic for the adminiſtration to attempt a negociation in the firſt inſtance, and accordingly, one of the FREDISH ſhips was ordered to be got in readineſs to carry an envoy extraordinary from America to Europe. Should war become neceſſary for the national honour and ſecurity, our public enemies will find to their ſorrow, that the FREDES will make brave ſoldiers and gallant ſailors.—Never will they quit the hardy conteſt until their deeds ſhall be worthy of being recorded in immortal verſe, equally honourable to the bards and the heroes of FREDONIA."

The radical word is alſo well adapted to ſongs and rhymes. And this is a great convenience and felicity in a national point of view. Obſerve, Mr. Editor, how prettily our poets can make it jingle; for inſtance, if the ſubject is warlike, then

"Their Chiefs, to glory lead on
"The noble ſons of FREDON."

Or if it is moral ſublimity,

"Nor Plato, in his PHAEDON
"Excels the ſage of FREDON."

Should it be commercial Activity,

"All Nations have agreed on
"The Enterprize of FREDON."

Perhaps then it may refer to our exports; why then

"The Portuguese may feed on
"The wheat and maize of FREDON."

It may be deſirable to celebrate our Agriculture, as in the following diſtitch,

"No land ſo good as FREDON
"To ſcatter grain and ſeed on."

On the ſuppoſition that a ſwain wiſhes to compliment his country-women, he may inform them that

"The graceful Nymphs of FREDON
"Surpass all Belles we read on."

And indeed if it is his deſire to ejaculate in a ſerious ſtrain, it may be written

"In this fair land of FREDON
"May right and juſtice be done."

We give theſe as ſamples of what may be accompliſhed in this way, adding that the poet may eaſily contraſt his country with SWEDEN, or to compare it to EDEN, if he is puzzled for a rhyme.

On the whole, Mr. Editor, we recommend theſe words to the ſerious conſideration and ſpeedy adoption of our fellow-citizens; that our common and beloved portion of the earth, may thereby acquire a NAME, and be famous among the NATIONS.

M.

From the VIRGINIA GAZETTE,
OF APRIL 23.

SHOOTING STARS.

THIS electrical phenomenon was obſerved on Wedneſday morning laſt at Richmond, and its vicinity, in a manner that alarmed many, and aſtoniſhed every perſon who beheld it. From one until three in the morning, thoſe ſtarry meteors ſeemed to fall from every point in the heavens, in

ſuch numbers as to reſemble a ſhower of ſky rockets. The inhabitants happened at the ſame hour to be called from their houſes by the fire bell, which was rung on account of a fire that broke out in one of the rooms of the Armoury, but which was ſpeedily extinguiſhed. Every one, therefore, had an opportunity of witneſſing a ſcene of nature, which never before was diſplayed in this part of the globe, and which, probably will never appear again. Several of thoſe ſhooting meteors were accompanied with a train of fire, that illuminated the ſky for a conſiderable diſtance. One, in particular, appeared to fall from the Zenith, of the apparent ſize of a ball of eighteen inches diameter, that lighted for ſeveral ſeconds the whole hemiſphere. During the continuance of this remarkable phenommenon, a hiſſing noiſe in the air was plainly heard, and ſeveral reports. reſembling the diſcharge of a piſtol. Had the city bell not been ringing, theſe reports would probably have ſeemed much louder. The ſky was remarkably clear and ſerene, and the viſible fixed ſtars numerous the whole night. We are anxious to know at what diſtance from Richmond this phenomenon has extended. It is hoped that perſons who have remarked it in other places, will not neglect to inform the public of the particulars; as ſuch information may add, in a great degree, to the knowledge of Meteorology.

Since writing the above, we have been informed, that ſeveral of the largeſt of theſe ſhooting meteors, were obſerved to deſcend almoſt to the ground before they exploded. Indeed, many of thoſe which we ſaw, appeared to approach within a few yards of the houſe tops, and then ſuddenly to vaniſh. Some perſons, we are told, were ſo alarmed, that they imagined the fire in the Armoury was occaſioned by one of theſe meteors, and in place of repairing to extinguiſh the earthly flames, they buſied themſelves in contriving to protect the roofs of their houſes from the fire of heaven.

The circumſtance of the ſhooting ſtars deſcending within a ſhort diſtance of the ground, is however, a fact highly important to be known; as it has been generally ſuppoſed, that meteors only proceed in a horizontal direction, and never fly perpendicularly upwards or downwards. Thoſe which we particularly remarked, appeared to deſcend in an angle of ſixty degrees with the horizon; but as the ſmaller ones were ſo numerous, and croſſed each other in different directions, it was only poſſible to aſcertain with any preciſion, the paths of the largeſt and moſt brilliant.

APHORISM.——Be afraid of him who meets you with friendly aſpect, and, in the midſt of a flattering ſalutation, avoids your direct open look.—*Lavater.*

Be it our weekly task,
To note the passing tidings of the times.

Hudson, *May* 17, 1803.

The following gentlemen are choſen directors of the *Bank of Columbia*, for the enſuing year:—

Stephen Paddock, Preſident—*Reuben Folger, Samuel Edmonds, Eliſha Williams, Benjamin Allen, Samuel B. Webb, James Hyatt, Cotton Gelſton, William Aſhley, Jacob R. Van Renſſelaer, William W. Van Neſs, Daniel Penfield, James Nixon, jun.*

Mr. MONROE.

The Norfolk Herald of the 5th inſt. ſtates, that by the brig Favorite, capt. Freyer, from Bourdeaux, in 35 days, which arrived on the 3rd. letters are received, announcing the arrival of Mr. Monroe at Havre. The ſhip Richmond in which Mr. Monroe went, ſailed from this port on the 8th of March—ſhe muſt conſequently have performed her voyage in about 22 days.

[*Evening Poſt.*]

A letter was received in town this morning from Salem, which mentions the arrival of the ſhip Franklin at that port from the Cape of Good-Hope, which place ſhe left the 8th of March, and that the capt. ſtates that "*The Cape was given up to the Dutch on the 21ſt of February.*"

Ibid.

The captain of the ſchooner Factor, from Aux-Cayes, informs that when he left that quarter every plantation in the plain had been burnt by the negroes. A few days before the veſſel ſailed, an attack was made on the French troops ſhut up in Aux-Cayes; but the aſſailants were ſeverely repulſed. Two hundred men arrived there from Tiberon on the 2d April, and 500 more on the day following. Aux-Cayes was ſurrounded on all ſides by the inſurgents.

Ibid.

Extract of a letter from our correſpondent at Cape Francois, dated April 5.

"A great number of Blood Hounds lately arrived here from the Havanna; and ſome priſoners that have been made, acknowledge that this intelligence has ſpread conſternation and diſmay among the Brigands. Some who were condemned to death, were taken into an open field, where theſe dogs were let looſe, who tore them in pieces, and devoured them. A few days ſince, a number of the brigand officers came to the outer poſts of this town with a flag of truce; the officers of the town went to meet them and invited them to dinner, but the arrangements they have concluded on are kept ſecret: it is reported, however, that the brigands offer to return to their maſters, provided they are aſſured that they will be received as hirelings, not as ſlaves.

"A French ſhip arrived off this port, and after learning the ſtate of the market, proceeded with her cargo for Port-au-Prince, but was taken in the Bite by brigands, the captain and crew maſſacred, and the ſhip burnt to the water's edge.

"General Rochambeau has removed his headquarters to port-au-prince, where he intends to gather all his troops, and march by land to the port; it is ſaid he will begin in July.

"The inhabitants ſeem to be cheerful, and every thing wears a more favorable aſpect. Trade begins to flouriſh and I am in hopes, in a ſhort time, every thing will be more tranquil."

Ibid.

OF AFFAIRS IN EUROPE.

Several gentlemen from Newburyport, ſince the date of the laſt paper, printed in that place, inform, that the intelligence brought by Capt. Rutheford, inſtead of announcing the actual declaration of War between France and England, goes no farther than that he was informed, the Britiſh would have 70 ſail of the line in readineſs, *in caſe of actual war*. They likewiſe add that the veſſel ſpoken had been out 36, inſtead of 33, days.

Poſitive teſtimony of War is yet but flying report. The Cabinet of St. Jame's is ſtill cloſed, and Miniſters are extremely reſerved on this intereſting queſtion. The ſituation of either country, and particularly the political arrangements made, and about to be put in execution, between *France* & *Spain*, are by no means of a pacific tendency:—and we may venture to predict, that a permanent eſtabliſhed Peace is yet diſtant. The detention of *Malta*, contrary to the ſtipulation of *Amiens*, is ſaid to be the oſtenſible object of contention; but the policy of the Britiſh Cabinet, has undoubtedly a ſpeculation under conſultation far more important to them, and ſtill more alarming to the ambitious projects of the Firſt Conſul, than the ſimple queſtion reſpecting that Iſland. The ceſſion of *Louiſiana* by Spain to France, is a ſubject by no means indifferent to the Britiſh Government; and however it may be conſidered, as it reſpects the United States, we may reſt aſſured that *they* will not paſſively ſubmit that ſo extenſively a territory ſhould fall into the hands of their imperious rival; and that their American provinces ſhould be ſo immediately under the control of the ſame nation, from whoſe poſ-

ſeſſion they were formerly wreſted by the ſuperior energy of the Britiſh arms. The poſſeſſion of *Louiſiana*, by the French, is certainly a ſubject of ſerious conſequence to the Engliſh ſettlements at *Quebec* and *Novaſcotia*; and Bonaparte may have occaſion to obtain the conſent of England as well as Spain, before he can take quiet poſſeſſion. [*Boſton Gazette.*]

A late letter from a reſpectable mercantile houſe in London, contains the following obſervations on the preſent ſtate of political affairs between the Governments of France and England: "A meſſage was ſent on Sunday to *Bonaparte* with the ultimatum of our Court, which is believed to be, that in conſequence of the frequent infraction of the Treaty of Amiens, by the French in Switzerland, and their annexing Piedmont and Parma to France, we felt authoriſed and determined to retain Malta, and to inſiſt that *New-Orleans* and *Louiſiana* ſhall be reſtored to Spain, or given up to the United States of America ſo that the navigation of the Miſſiſſippi ſhall on no account be left in the power of France."

Ibid.

The following curious article, (ſays the Gazette of the United States) forms a very appropriate comment on Don Marquis's hand-kiſſing note to our Secretary of State.

From the PHILADELPHIA GAZETTE.

[TRANSLATION.]

PROCLAMATION.

In the name of the French Republic,

L'AUSSAT, Colonial Prefect,

TO THE LOUISIANIANS.

Your ſeparation from France marks one of the moſt ſhameful epochs of her annals, under an enfeebled and corrupt government, after an ignominious war, and a diſgraceful peace.

To that cowardly and unnatural abandonment, you preſented the contraſt of heroic love, fidelity and courage.

The hearts of all Frenchmen were ſoftened by the ſpectacle. They never let it ſlip their remembrance. They then exclaimed, with pride, and have never ſince ceaſed to repeat, that *the blood of France runs in your veins.*

As ſoon as they had regained their dignity and their glory, by the revolution and a train of prodigious triumphs, they turned towards you their affectionate attention. You conſtituted a part of their firſt negociation. They wiſhed your retroceſſion to accompany and ſignalize their *firſt* peace.

The time was not yet arrived. It was neceſſary that A MAN ſhould appear, to whom nothing which is *natural, great, magnanimous and juſt*, was new or impoſſible:—who, to the talent of achieving the moſt ſplendid victories, united the more extraordinary one of combining and ſecuring to them the moſt happy conſequences: who by the aſcendancy of his mind commanded at once terror from his enemies and confidence from his allies:—who, by his penetrating genius, diſcriminated the true intereſts of his country, and, by an irreſiſtable will, gave operation to thoſe intereſts:—who, in fine, *was born* to replace France on her own baſis, to eſtabliſh her in the whole extent of her limits, and to eraſe all the blemiſhes of her hiſtory.

This man, Louiſianians, preſides over our deſtinies. From this moment he is the pledge of your happineſs. To ſecure this, in this fortunate ſoil, it is only neceſſary to aſſiſt the prodigality of nature. This is the deſign of the French government.

To cultivate peace and friendſhip with all your neighbours; to protect your commerce, encourage your agriculture, people your deſerts; foſter induſtry, reſpect property, cuſtoms and opinions; pay reverence to religion; to honour virtue; to ſecure to the laws their ſovereignty, and to correct them only as the light of experience may dictate; to introduce permanent order and economy in all the branches of the public adminiſtration; to unite ſtill cloſer the ties which the ſame origin, the ſame morals, the ſame diſpoſitions have created between this colony and the mother country; theſe, Louiſianians, are the honourable objects of the miſſion of your captain general Victor, your colonial prefect and your chief judge. Theſe, they are happy to ſay, are the motives with which they come to mix with you.

The reputation of the Captain General has doubtleſs even here preceded him. Companions in arms with the Firſt Conſul, he diſtinguiſhed himſelf, from the commencement of the campaign of the famous armies of Italy. In leſs brilliant days, he aſtoniſhed Suwarrow by precipitating his flight: *He was in fine, one of the lieutenants of Bonaparte, at the battle of Marengo!* Surrounded with theſe titles, the illuſtrious pledge of his fame, he comes to you, Louiſianians, with a lively deſire of rendering himſelf dear to you, by the exerciſes of all the virtues, the cares, and induſtry, which devolve on the chief of a happy people. His ardour for your proſperity, the uprightneſs of his intentions, the agreeableneſs and affability of his addreſs and manners, which are even ornaments to his military laurels, will ſecure to him your affection and confidence. He brings with him a part of thoſe troops who have made the earth tremble, even to theſe remote ſhores. Batavia, ſince the peace, has admired their good conduct and excellent diſcipline. You may like her admire and eſteem them.

In ſhort Louiſianians, you will find in your Chief Judge, genius, impartiality, and diſintereſtedneſs. He comes to you already known by the fame of his talents, by his ſufferings and misfortunes.

Under every circumſtance you will have reaſon to rejoice at having become French, you will daily feel more and more the value of that ſplendid title, the object of the envy of the whole globe.

We know, nevertheleſs, Louiſianians, and will not diſſimulate it, that during thirty years, Spain, by the temperance of a generous and mild government, has endeavoured to make you forget the grievous fault of an unworthy agent of this noble nation—She is our cloſe and faithful friend: It will not be us who will inſtigate you to repay her mildneſs with ingratitude. We will endeavor, by acts of munificence, to emulate the policy of the Chief ſhe had given you. Your attachment for the French Republic, our common country; your gratitude to thoſe who protect you, and the daily ſight of your growing proſperity, are the objects which we ſhall aim at; with a zeal and aſſiduity, which only can be limited by the fulfilment of all our duties and all our wiſhes.

New-Orleans, the 11th year of the French Republic.

L'AUSSATT.

By the Colonial Prefect,
The officer of adminiſtration, acting as Secretary.
DAUGEROT.

The Knot.

MARRIED,

In this city, Sunday evening laſt, Capt. REUBEN MORE to Miss HEPZA HUZZEY, both of Hudſon

At Reading, Connecticut, Rev. BETHEL JUDD, rector of Chriſt church, in this city, to Miss MARGARET HERON, daughter of William Heron, Eſq. of that place.

The Knell.

DROWNED,

On Friday laſt, by the overſetting of a ſmall ſkiff on Hudſon's river, PHILIP MURPHEY, a young man belonging to this city.

To Correſpondents.

The communication, under the ſignature of "PARVUS HOMO," is, for cogent reaſons, inadmiſſible.

The Wreath.

[From the first Volume of the Gazette of the United States, which a friend has obligingly loaned us, we copy the following extract :—]

THE ORIGIN OF LAWS.

THRICE happy age, the youthful Poet cries,
Ere laws arose, ere tyrants bade them rise ;
When all were blest to share a common store,
And none were proud of wealth, for none were poor ;
No wars, no tumults vext each still domain,
No thirst of empire, no desire of gain ;
No proud great man, nor one who would be great,
Drove modest Merit from its proper state ;
Nor into distant climes would Avarice roam,
To fetch delights for Luxury at home :
Bound by no ties but those by nature made,
Virtue was law, and gifts prevented trade,

Mistaken youth ! each nation first was rude,
Each man a chearless son of solitude,
To whom no joys of social life were known,
Nor felt a care that was not all his own ;
Or in some languid clime his abject soul
Bow'd to a little tyrant's stern controul ;
A slave, with slaves his monarch's throne he rais'd ;
And in rude song his ruder idol prais'd ;
The meaner cares of life were all he knew,
Bounded his pleasures, and his wishes few :
But when by slow degrees the Arts arose,
Taught by some conquering friends, who came as foes ;
When Commerce, rising from the bed of ease,
Ran round the land and pointed to the seas ;
When Emulation, born with jealous eye,
And Avarice, lent their spurs to Industry ;
Then one by one the numerous laws were made,
Those to controul, and these to succour trade ;
To curb the insolence of rude command,
To snatch the victim from the Usurer's hand,
To awe the bold, to yield the wrong'd redress,
And feed the poor with Luxury's excess.

Like some vast flood, unbounded, fierce, and strong,
His nature leads ungovern'd men along ;
Like mighty bulwarks made to stem that tide,
The laws are form'd, and plac'd on every side ;
When e'er it breaks the bounds by these decreed,
New statutes rise, and stronger laws succeed ;
More and more gentle grows the dying stream,
More and more strong the rising bulwarks seem :
Till, like a miner working sure and slow,
Luxury creeps on, and ruins all below ;
The basis sinks, the ample piles decay,
The stately fabric shakes and falls away ;
Primæval Want and Ignorance come on,
But Freedom, sovereign boon of life, is gone.

Diversity.

Mr. LEDYARD, a native of Connecticut, who traversed some of the most dreary regions of Russia, in a letter to Doctor Ledyard of Long-Island, wrote as follows.

" You have no idea of the excessive cold in the region of Siberia. By experiments that I made at Yakutsk, I found on the 19th of November the mercury in my thermometer froze. In December I found by repeated observations, that two ounces of clear quicksilver openly exposed, froze hard in fifteen minutes. I observed that in these severe frosts, the air was condensed, as is with you in a thick fog—the atmosphere is frozen—respiration is fatiguing &c. It is a happy law of nature, that in such intense cold there is seldom any wind—when there is, it is dangerous to be abroad.

" There are no wells at Yakutsk ; for it is found by experiment that the water freezes at sixty feet deep. People of these regions are therefore obliged to use ice and snow. They have also ice windows—glass is of no use to the few who have it ; the difference in the state of the air, within and without, is so great, that the glass is covered on the inside with several inches of frost, and in that situation it is less luminous than ice. The timber of the houses splits and opens with loud cracks—the rivers thunder, and open with broad fissures—all nature groans beneath the rigorous winter."

ORIGIN OF THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

IN the year 1349, the Countess of Salisbury a mistress of Edward III. happened at a court-ball to drop her garter ; and the King taking it up, exclaimed, " *Honi soit qui male pense ;*" " *evil to him that evil thinks.*" In memorial of this trivial event, he instituted the order of the garter, and gave the foregoing words as the motto of the order. It is the most dignified order in England. Only twenty-five persons besides the King were originally admitted ; and the number has never been increased.

LOYALTY.

IN the 7th century, when an hired assassin made a desperate attempt at Edwin, King of England, Lilla, one of his courtiers, seeing no other way to save the life of his prince, sprung between him and the assassin's dagger ; which he received in his own vitals, and instantly expired.

[*The following anecdote is humbly submitted to the consideration of those credulous and well-meaning democrats, who have been* talked *into a belief that their taxes are lightened.*]

Hely Hutchinson, late provost of Trinity College, and father of Dublin, on his first introduction into the Irish parliament, delivered a speech of considerable length on the rapid increase of the *prosperity of Ireland.*—Counsellor Castello, a member of the same parliament, listened with great attention to the young orator's flowery declamation ; and when he had done, the counsellor got up, and expressed the satisfaction he felt on hearing that his native country was in such a flourishing state.—" When," added he, " that youthful senator got up to speak, I had *three halfpence* in my pocket, and I am sure they must be *three guineas now !*—Let me see."—On which he put his hand into his pocket, pulled them out, and, having looked at them for a moment, exclaimed, " Oh, by my !—!, *they are half-pence still !*"

LACONIC.

FRANCIS, King of France, having been defeated in battle and taken prisoner, in the year 1525, wrote a letter to his queen, which contained *only* these few words, " *Madam, all is lost, except our honour.*"

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